<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend claim 1-25 as follows:

1   1.(Currently Amended) A method of processing a catalog of

2   electronic programming information containing information for at

3   least one program, said information including a start time and an

4   end time of said at least one program, said method comprising:

5   obtaining <u>from said at least one program</u> a first value

6   representing characteristics data of said at least one program at

7   said start time; and

8   storing said first value in said catalog; and

9   obtaining <u>from said at least one program</u> a second value

10   representing characteristics data of said at least one program at

11   said end time; and

12   storing said second value ~~program~~ in said catalog;

13   when a user selects said at least one program for a <u>future</u> use

14   by a device with a program input, copying said first value and said

15   second value to said device ;

16   comparing said first <u>value</u> and <u>said</u> second value to

17   corresponding values obtained from said program input to determine

18   a start and stop time for said use.

1   2.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said <u>at</u>

2 <u>least one</u> program is a carried by a video signal source.

1   3.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said use

2 for said <u>at least one</u> program includes said device displaying said

3 <u>at least one</u> program.

1   4.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said use

2 for said <u>at least one</u> program includes said device recording said

3 <u>at least one</u> program.

1   5.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at least</u>

2 <u>one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3 characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is a

4 signature generated by using a combination of features from a frame

5 of said <u>at least one</u> program.

1   6.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at least</u>

2 <u>one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3 characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is a

4 color histogram generated from a frame of said <u>at least one</u>

5 program.

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1   7. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at least</u>

2   <u>one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4   generated from closed captioning data gathered from a frame of said

5   <u>at least one</u> program.

1   8. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at least</u>

2   <u>one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4   generated from ~~the~~ <u>an</u> audio portion from one or more frames of said

5   <u>at least one</u> program.

1   9. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at least</u>

2   <u>one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is a

4   signature generated for a block of discrete cosine values for a

5   frame.

1   10. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein <u>at</u>

2   <u>least one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3 | characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4 | obtained from low level features.

1   11.(Currently Amended) A method of processing a catalog of

2 electronic programming information containing information for at

3 least one program, said information including a start time and an

4 end time of said at least one program, said method comprising:

5   obtaining <u>from said at least one program</u> a first value

6 representing characteristics data of an ending of a program

7 immediately preceding said at least one program; and

8   storing said first value in said catalog; and

9   obtaining <u>from said at least one program</u> a second value

10 representing characteristics data of said at least one program at

11 said end time; and

12   storing said second value ~~program~~ in said catalog;

13   when a user selects said at least one program for a <u>future</u> use

14 by a device with a program input, copying said first value and said

15 second value to said device ;

16   comparing said first <u>value</u> and <u>said</u> second value to

17 corresponding values obtained from said program input to determine

18 a start and stop time for said use.

1   12.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, where said <u>at</u>

2 <u>least one </u>program is carried by a video signal source.

1   13.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said

2 use for said <u>at least one </u>program includes said device displaying

3 said <u>at least one </u>program.

1   14.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein said

2 use for said <u>at least one </u>program includes said device recording

3 said <u>at least one </u>program.

1   15.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2 <u>least one of </u>said <u>first </u>value <u>and said second value </u>representing

3 characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one </u>program is a

4 signature generated by using a combination of features from a frame

5 of said <u>at least one </u>program.

1   16.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2 <u>least one of </u>said <u>first </u>value <u>and said second value </u>representing

3 characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one </u>program is a

4   color histogram generated from a frame of said <u>at least one</u>

5   program.

1   17.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2   <u>least one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4   generated from closed captioning data gathered from a frame of said

5   <u>at least one program</u>.

1   18.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2   <u>least one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4   generated from the audio portion from one or more frames of said <u>at</u>

5   <u>least one program</u>.

1   19.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2   <u>least one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3   characteristics of said DCT blocks is a signature generated for a

4   block of DCT values for a frame.

1   20.(Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein <u>at</u>

2   <u>least one of</u> said <u>first</u> value <u>and said second value</u> representing

3 characteristics data gathered from said <u>at least one</u> program is

4 obtained from low level features.

1   21.(Currently Amended)   A method of processing a catalog of

2 electronic programming information containing information for ~~at~~

3 ~~least one~~ <u>a second program and a first program which immediately</u>

4 <u>temporarily precedes said second program</u>, said information

5 including a start time and an end time of said ~~at least one~~ <u>second</u>

6 program and ~~the~~ <u>an</u> end<u>ing</u> time for ~~an immediately temporarily~~

7 ~~preceding~~ <u>said first</u> program, said method comprising:

8   obtaining <u>from said first program</u> a first value representing

9 <u>first</u> characteristics data of ~~an ending of a~~ <u>said first</u> program <u>at</u>

10 <u>said ending time</u> ~~immediately preceding said at least one program~~;

11 and

12   storing said first value in said catalog; and

13   obtaining <u>from said second program</u> a second value representing

14 <u>second</u> characteristics data of said ~~at least one~~ <u>second</u> program at

15 said start time; and

16   storing said second value ~~program~~ in said catalog;

17   when a user selects said ~~at least one~~ <u>second</u> program for a

18 <u>future</u> use by a device with a program input, copying said first

19 value and said second value to said device;

20 | comparing said first value to a corresponding value obtained

21 from said program input to determine a said ending time when of

22 said immediately temporarily preceding first program ends;

23 next comparing said second value to corresponding value

24 obtained from said program input to determine time for said use to

25 begin.

1 22.(Currently Amended) A system for processing a catalog of

2 electronic programming information, in which said catalog contains

3 information for a program, wherein a start time and end time of

4 said program is stored, in which said program is represented by

5 | characteristics characteristic data gathered from said program,

6 said system comprising:

7 a video signal source of said program; and

8 a processor operatively coupled to said video signal source,

9 | said processor coupled to an electronic programming guide, and

10 coupled to a user selection device, and logic output means; said

11 processor configured to:

12 obtain a user programming selection from said user

13 selection device; and

14   obtain said characteristic data, program channel

15 selection, and ~~program~~ said start time and said end time from ~~said~~

16 ~~electronic programming guide containing~~ said catalog; and

17   monitor said video signal source at time proximal to said

18 ~~program~~ start time, comparing said characteristic data with

19 complimentary characteristic data generated from said video signal

20 source; and

21   (a) when said characteristic data obtained from said

22 catalog is equivalent to said complimentary characteristic data

23 generated from said video signal source, set said logic output

24 means to TRUE, and stop performing said comparison; or

25   (b) otherwise set said logic output means to FALSE and

26 continue performing said comparison on said video signal source.

1   23.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, ~~further~~

2 ~~comprising~~ wherein said processor is further configured to:

3   monitor said video signal source at time proximal to said

4 ~~program~~ end time, comparing said characteristic data obtained from

5 said catalog with said complimentary characteristic data generated

6 from video signal source; and

7   (a) when said characteristic data obtained from said

8 catalog is equivalent to said complimentary characteristic data

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9 | generated from said video signal source, set said logic output

10 means to FALSE, and stop performing said comparison; or

11 | (b) otherwise set said logic output means to TRUE and

12 | continue performing said comparison on said video signal source.

1   24.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, wherein said

2 processor is further operatively connected to a device for further

3 processing said program, wherein a TRUE value for said logic output

4 | means causes said processor to turn on said device to ~~the~~ a channel

5 | of said program.

1   25.(Currently Amended) The system of claim 24, further

2 | comprising that a FALSE value of said logic output means causes

3 | said processor to turn off said device ~~for further processing~~.